

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY.....	6
2. CONTEXT	7
3. RESULTS	5
4. ACTIVITIES.....	6
A. ASISTANCE COMPONENT	6
B. PREVENTION COMPONENT.....	20
INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING FOR COLOMBIANIZATION.....	27
5. LESSONS LEARNED.....	28
6. PRIORITIES FOR THE COMING TERM	29

<i>ACRONYMS</i>	
ICBF	Colombian Institute of Family Welfare
CH&Y	Children and Youths
CNRR	Colombian National Commission for Reparation and Reconciliation
ACRSE	High Council for Social and Economical Reintegration
CROJ	Youth Reference and Opportunity Centres
SENA	National Learning Service
SNBF	National System of Family Welfare
MIMA	Integral Model for Marketing and Business Administration
MEN	National Ministry of Education
CIPR	National Committee for Prevention of Recruitment
MDN	Ministry of National Defense
GAO	General Attorney's Office
CRIC	Regional Indigenous Council
ICR	Reintegration Conditions Index
CAL	Childhood and Adolescence Law (1098 of 2006)
CAE	Specialized Assistance Centers
MVRO	Vulnerability, Risk and Opportunity Maps
IASC	Inter-Agency Standing Committee
PSU	Psychoactive Substances Use
IAG	Illegal Armed Groups

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report concerns the activities during the period April through June 2009, of the *New Consolidation Program to Support Child Ex-Combatants and Prevent Recruitment of Children by Illegal Armed Groups 2009-2011*, possible by the support of the American People – (USAID). This Program incorporated the results achieved by the original Program supported by USAID and implemented by IOM since 2001.

This quarter Program activities improved assistance quality provided to ex-combatants children or children and youths at risk of recruitment. In the Direct Assistance to Under-Age Ex-Combatants component, USAID/IOM supported ICBF to provide direct assistance to 67 new beneficiaries and to an average of 663, through three reception centers (HAT); seven specialized attention centers (CAE); one youth house; and four regional networks of home-placement options. This quarter, a total of 31 employment opportunities were provided; 193 youths received vocational training and income generation assistance; and 67 new beneficiaries had access to education programs. CROJ services benefited some 902 youths.

The Recruitment Prevention component included a set of activities crafted into a unified program that used policy change and mass education to re-shape public mores with the participation of 7,962 new beneficiaries. USAID/IOM supported the National Committee for Prevention of Recruitment (CIPR), providing support to 530 youths and 1,800 civil servants.

The institutional strengthening for *Colombianization* included progressive transfer of best practices and methodologies at appropriate levels. USAID/IOM provided technical and financial support to 25 Colombian institutions. The MVRO methodology; MIMA TOOL; CROJ model; *Hogar Tutor* modality and other assistance and prevention strategies have been progressively assumed by GOC institutions.

Key Special Results: The results include: (1) Direct Assistance to Under-Age Ex-Combatants model increased quality standards (2) Family- and foster-care modalities were strengthened and had a great positive impact on an average of 902 beneficiaries (3) The specific needs of Afro-Colombian and Indigenous communities were addressed via specialized, culturally-appropriate programming in modalities like *HogarTutor* for Indigenous Youths; (4) CROJ improved service delivery for both social and economic incorporation of 902 youths.

2. CONTEXT

The quarter in Colombia was marked by a decided downward trend in the economical and violence situation. The International Committee of the RedCross (ICRC) announced that Colombia is one of eight countries in the world where people suffer the most from violence. Furthermore, the human rights organization Amnesty International reported that Colombia's civilian population is increasingly a victim of the violence in the country. According to the NGO, more people were killed, displaced or disappeared in the period July 2007 - June 2008 than the previous year.

GOC officials reported that some 554 confessions by former paramilitaries had been received. Media highlighted an increase in investigations by judicial authorities into crimes committed by former paramilitaries, including recruitment of minors and conspiracy with public officials. According to *El Tiempo* child assassins, hired by paramilitary or drug gangs, killed 542 people in Colombia in the past two years.

Violence against children was another big problem pointed out this quarter. *El Tiempo* reported that Colombia's Prosecution is investigating extradited former paramilitary leader Hernan Giraldo Serna for child abuse in at least 20 cases. Six of his alleged rape victims got pregnant before their 14th birthday. The authorities have identified 22 children of the former paramilitary leader.

According to the International Labor Organization (ILO), more than 1.6 million Colombian children between five and seventeen years old perform labor. The economic situation in the country is forcing many parents to send their children off to work; the violence is another factor that generates child labor.

UNICEF reported that twelve out of hundred children in Colombia are suffering from chronic malnutrition. However, the director of ICBF questioned the validity of this report and said that according official statistics from 2003 to 2005 between 580 and 700 children died from malnutrition. In July, fourteen children of an indigenous tribe died because of malnutrition in Sierra Nevada near Santa Marta.

UN Rapporteur on extrajudicial executions, Philip Alston, examined the situation of human rights in Colombia in June and found that the perspectives for improvements are gloomy. Alston affirmed to *El Espectador*, that the main problems regarding human rights in Colombia is that the prosecution has not enough staff and resources nor sufficient training on International Humanitarian Law.

The Colombian President unified the functions of the High Commissioner for Peace and the High Presidential Counsel for Social and Economic Reintegration of Former Combatants, to improve State coordination on peace and demobilization.

Colombia's Senate approved a referendum to be held about a new law, allowing judges to send child molesters and murderers of minors to jail for life. The bill is to ask the Colombian people whether "homicide, the rape and exploitation of minors, severe ill-treatment and the abduction committed against children under fourteen years old and children with physical or mental disabilities, are punishable by sentences up to life imprisonment."

3. RESULTS

Indicators	Accumulated since 2001	Accumulated until 2008	Accumulated 2009	This quarter	Comments
Ex-combatant children	4,235	4,079	156	67	Program staff assisted 67 new beneficiaries and an average of 663; out of which 15% are Afro-Colombian and 13% are Indigenous. A total of 47 male and 20 female benefited from initial Program activities.
Employment Opportunities	1,748	1702	46	31	As a result of CROJ strategies 31 employment opportunities were provided. Most beneficiaries started to work in the building sector.
Vocational skills training	4,882	4310	572	193	58 youths attended an initial training module at SENA to define their vocational profiles in Antioquia, Santander, Bogotá, Huila and Valle. Education institutions such as SENA, <i>Escuela Taller de Cartagena</i> , Alexander Von Humboldt provided vocational training (second and third module) to 572 youths.
Access to education	3,890	3734	156	67	100% of the new beneficiaries received special education assessments. Transportation subsidies and school materials were provided to 104 youths. This quarter, 67 new beneficiaries accessed the educational system.
Access to health services	3,981	3825	156	67	67 new beneficiaries received medical assistance and check-ups. A total of 339 health services were provided.
Family reunification	817	787	30	20	A total of 20 family reunification processes took place.
Beneficiaries participating in Recruitment Prevention activities	67,673	46,799 ¹	20,874	7,962	Children and youths, as well as teachers, civil servants, families and community leaders participated in recruitment prevention activities.
Children & Youths	59,989	42,321	17,668	5,534	A total of 5,534 children and youths received direct assistance; of which 722 were Afro Colombian. The main recruitment prevention projects this quarter were: <i>Aulas en Paz</i> , PPN, Rural Education and Development, Promotion of Children Rights, strengthening of ITAS and school farms. Additionally, 530 children and youths participated in social cartographies activities.
Teachers & Civil Servants	7,684	4,478	3,206	2,428	628 teachers participated in prevention projects in Antioquia, Arauca, Cesar, Valle del Cauca, Magdalena, Nariño and Norte de Santander. 1,800 civil servants participated in trainings held by the CIPR.
Institutions strengthened	133	12	121	25	Program staff transferred MIMA tool to CESDE (<i>Centro de Estudios para el Desarrollo</i>) and ICBF. A total of 15 civil servants were trained as part of the project "Transfer of the Methodology on Vocational and Labor Skills Training for Children and Youths Released from IAG" IOM transferred IICR to 13 implementing agencies of assistance modalities such as HAT, CAE, <i>Casa Juvenil</i> , <i>Hogar Tutor</i> and <i>Hogar Gestor</i> . Also, eight ICBF regional offices (<i>Centros Zonales</i>) received technical assistance to implement IICR.

¹ The accumulated number of beneficiaries participating in Recruitment Prevention activities since 2001 until 2008 is the result of adding 42.321 direct beneficiaries reported in 31 FINAL Report to 4.478 civil servants, which were not included in the results chart.

4. ACTIVITIES

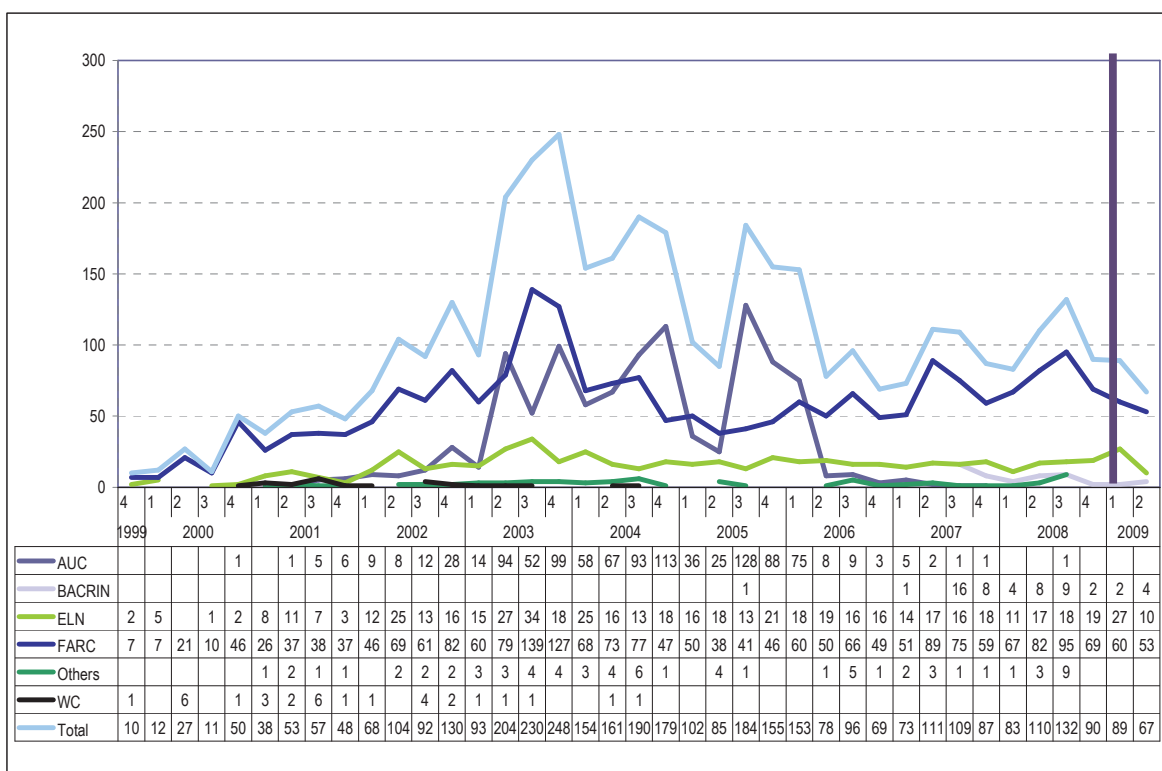
A. ASSISTANCE COMPONENT

The main objectives of the assistance component are: (i) promotion of extra-institutional “family” settings; and (ii) consolidation of pedagogical models and methodologies from earlier phases. As part of a tripartite partnership between the Government of Colombia (especially ICBF), USAID and IOM, Program staff drafted a 2009 joint work plan. IOM signed sixteen agreements with different NGOs to support educative, cultural and recreational activities.

TRENDS AND CHARACTERIZATION OF PROGRAM BENEFICIARIES ²

During this quarter the Consolidation Programme assisted 67 new beneficiaries. A total of 156 children and youths received psychosocial, education and health assistance during 2009. To date ICBF Program assisted 4,032 children.

Graph No. 1: Program Beneficiaries Vs Irregular Armed Group of Origin

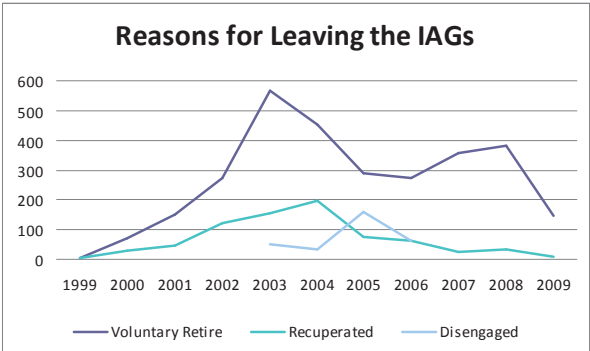


The graph shows a general decreasing trend in the number of children and youths entering the Program. The FARC is the main IAG of origin with 79% and ELN is the second with 15%. If less children and youths are leaving IAG, this trend will be explained through an increasing need of the guerrilla to

² The trends and characterization of program beneficiaries were made based ICBF accumulated data. 4,032 Children assisted until June 30th 2009. However, the Program has assisted an accumulated of 4,235 children and youths with USAID and IOM support.

maintain their combatants. According to *Cambio Magazine*³, the FARC strengthened children recruitment strategy, as adults disengagement increased. Under this scenario children and youths chances to be released decrease.

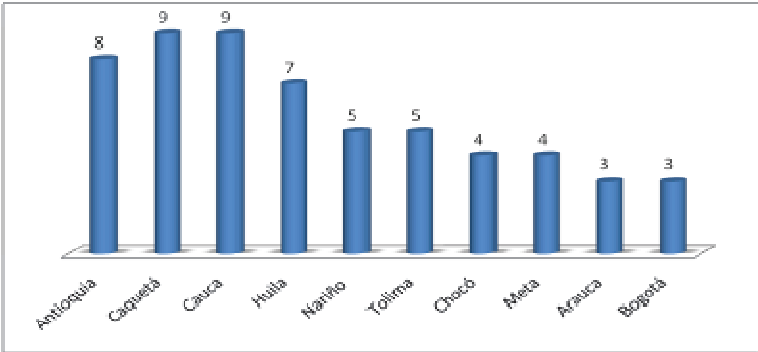
Graph No. 2:



In addition, the number of children and youths rescued by Colombian Army decreased (see Graph No. 2) and the Colombian Army pointed out that more children and youths are dying in combat. The combination of these two elements could explain the decrease on the number of beneficiaries during the period.

On the other hand, BACRIN showed a different trend. Despite the low number of children leaving this IAG, last quarter there was a slight increase on the number of children and youths released from this group.

Graph No. 3: Main Departments where Children and Youths Demobilizations Took Place

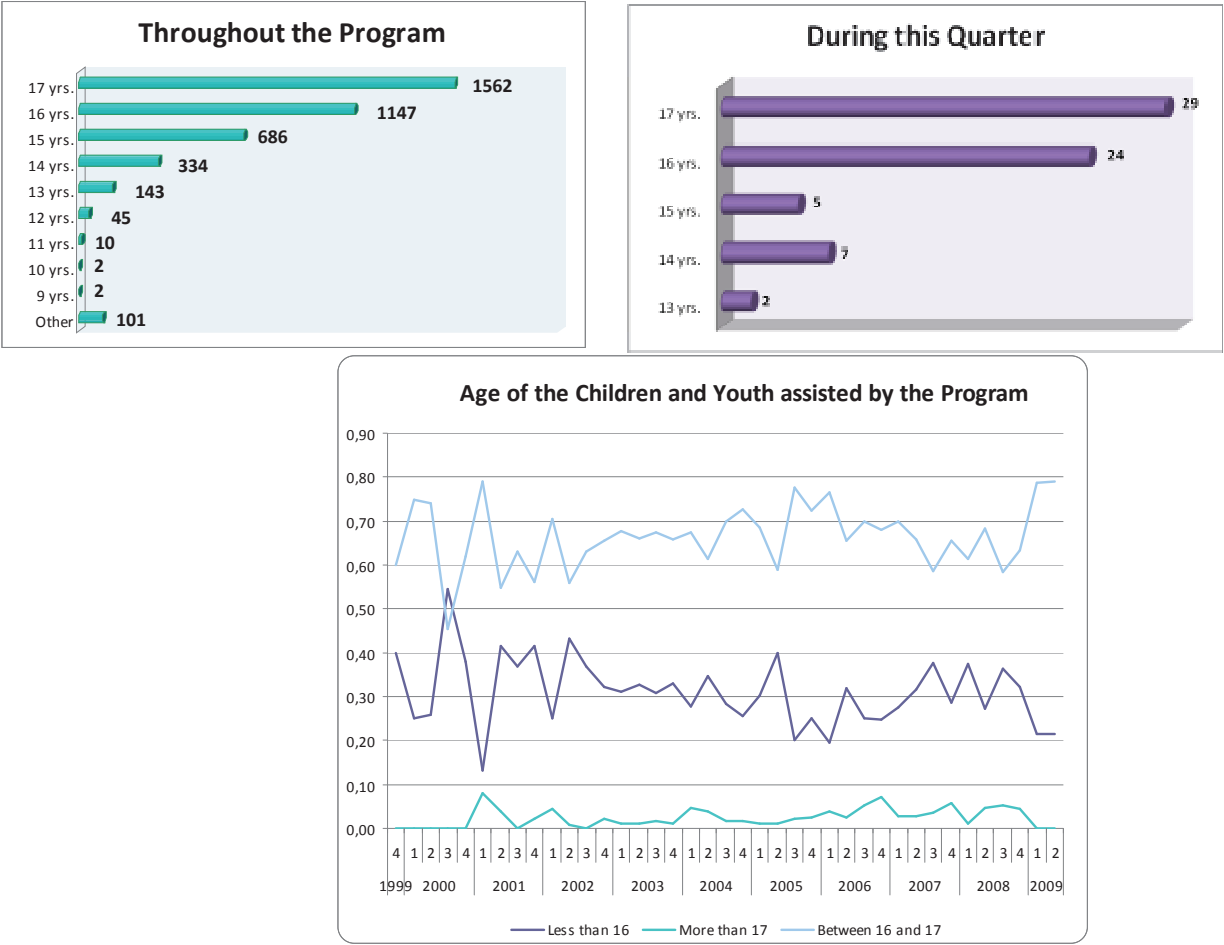


Between April and June 2009, nine (9) ex-combatant children and youths were released from IAG in: Caquetá and Cauca. Antioquia was the third department with more former combatants, followed by Huila, Nariño, Tolima, Chocó, Meta, Arauca and Bogotá. According to this data, the departments most affected by children recruitment, this quarter, were located on the southern-pacific region. However,

³ REVISTA CAMBIO, “Las Farc aumentan el reclutamiento de menores para sustituir desertores”. See: http://www.cambio.com.co/portadacambio/836/ARTICULO-WEB-NOTA_INTERIOR_CAMBIO-5599854.html

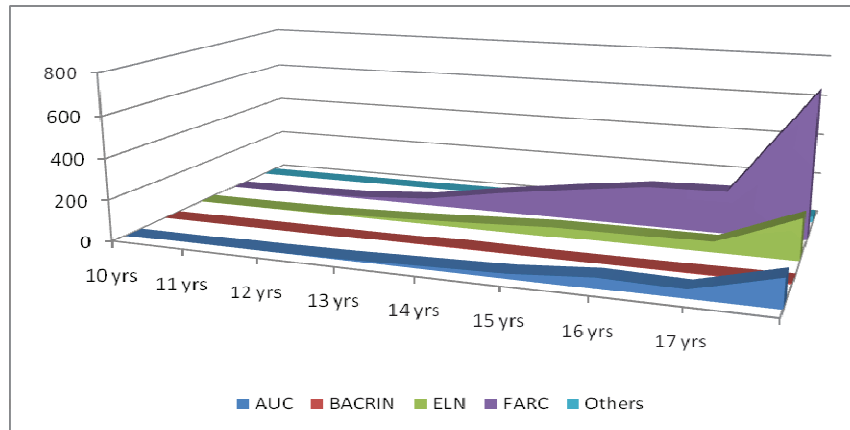
historically the ICBF offices that received more ex-combatants children are Antioquia (22%) and Bogotá (13%).

Graph No. 4: Beneficiaries' Age of Entry



The majority of the Program beneficiaries were between 16 and 17 years old. A total of 334 children were 14 years old and 143 were 13 years old. This quarter, age characterization remained invariable.

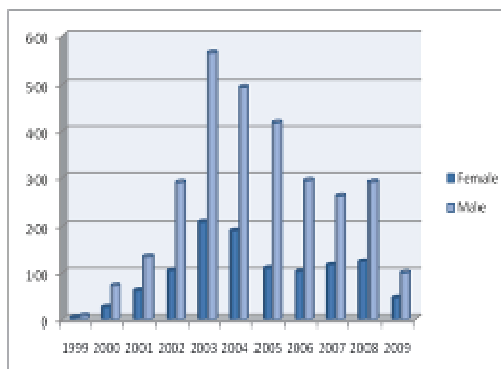
**Graph No. 5: Girls and Young Women Characteristics:
Irregular Armed Group vs. Released Age**



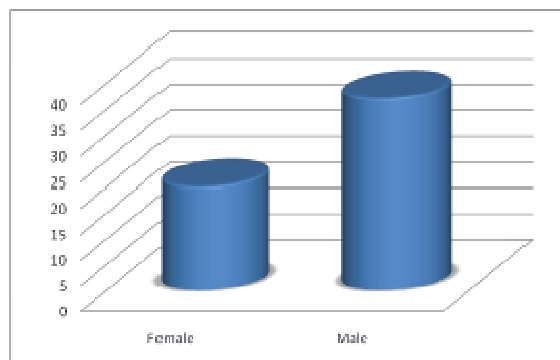
The FARC recruited more girls and young women than other IAG. An average of 27% of the Program beneficiaries was female, while 73% was male. This quarter, approximately 30% of the new beneficiaries were female, which implied a slight increase comparing to last quarter (28%). Most of the girls released from IAG are between 16 and 17 years old.

Graph No. 6: Program Gender Composition

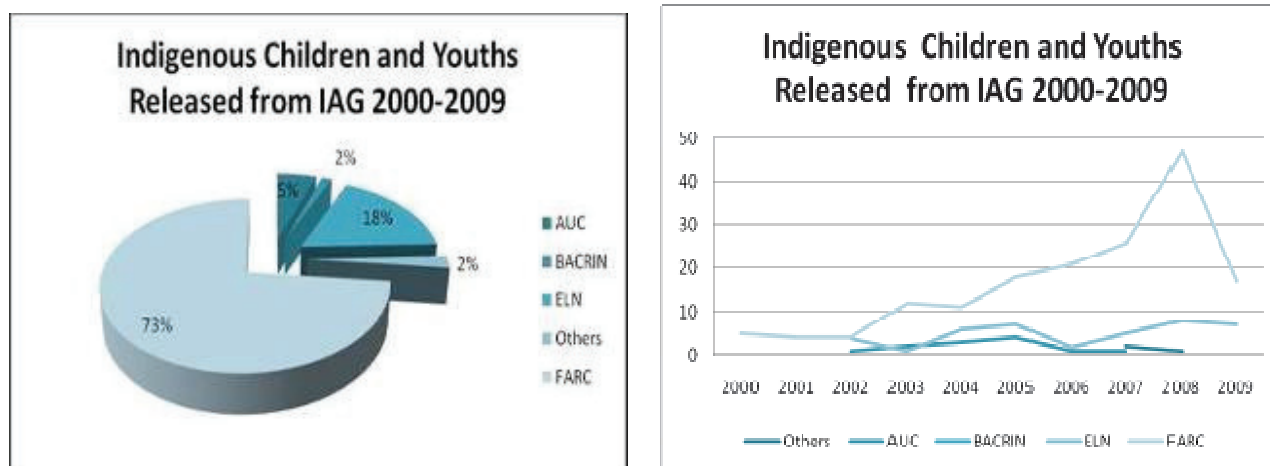
Throughout the Program



During this Quarter

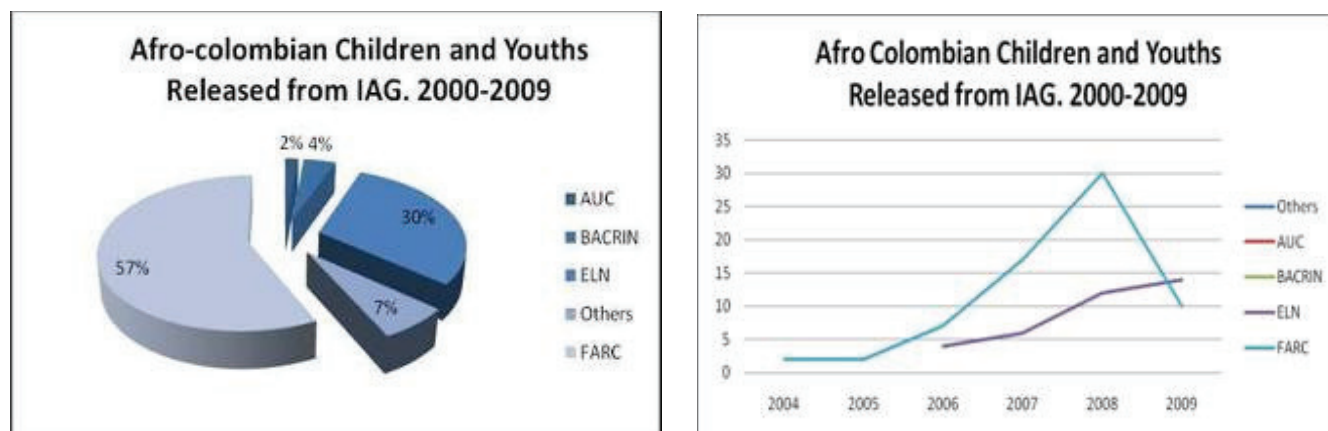


Graph No. 7: Indigenous Participation in the Program



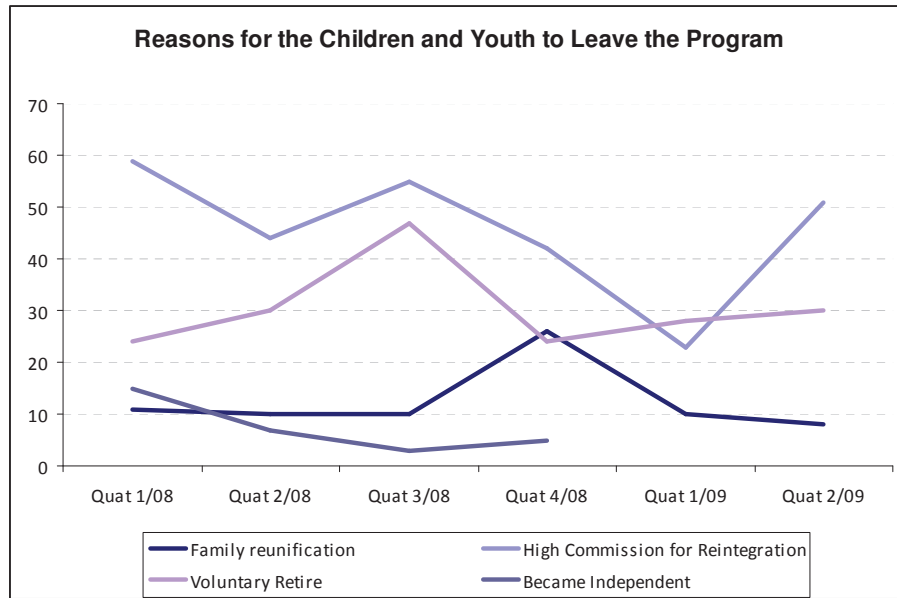
Thanks to the assistance provided by the Program during 2009, 25 Indigenous children and youths received health, education and psychosocial services; ten of them during this quarter. The ICBF Program assisted 225 indigenous children. The majority of the Indigenous beneficiaries were recruited by the FARC. Comparing the number of indigenous that entered the Program in 2008 with the 2009 trend, the Program showed an important decrease.

Graph No. 8: Afro-Colombians Participation in the Program



Between April and June 2009, nine Afro-Colombian youths joined the initiative. After high levels of demobilization of ethnic group's children and youth during 2008, there was a slight decrease on the number of Afro-Colombian children released during 2009.

Graph No. 9



It should be highlighted that during the second quarter 97 children and youth have left the program, most of them (51) were submitted to the High Commission for Reintegration while (30) voluntarily retire and (8) re-unite with their families. In comparin to last quarter trend, thenumber of youth sent to the High Commision for Reintegration doubled (last quarter only 23 were sent into the Commission) and Voluntary Retires continues to be invariable.

1.a DIRECT ASSISTANCE TO UNDER-AGE EX-COMBATANTS– ASSISTANCE DURING THE FOUR PHASES

The Program covered 100% of requested assistance, providing education, cultural and health services to 67 new beneficiaries and an average of 663 children and youths. The family environment component provided services to approximately 49% of the beneficiaries; the remaining 53% were assisted through the institutional component.

Joint Plan ICBF –IOM

During the reporting period the ICBF was the priority institution, IOM provided technical and financial support, to qualify direct assistance to ex-combatant children, and other vulnerable child or youth population. The strength and performance of ICBF, particularly as evidenced in the quality of Program assistance models and activities, rule and dissemination of law, were prioritized.

IOM provided technical assistance to promote decentralization as an effective means to promote increased local responsibility, for activities in key geographic regions. A total of 60 ICBF civil servants were trained on social integration methodologies in Bogotá, Antioquia, Santander, Valle, Bolivar, Caldas, Risaralda, Quindío and Meta. Joint ICBF-IOM evaluations emphasized the need for critical analysis of operations as well as planning. Program methodologies were refined and improved; in some problematic areas intensive articulation work was necessary.

Complementary activities like cultural, recreational, pedagogical and family encounters took place. Nine new implementing agencies were hired to strengthen social reintegration through these activities. Pedagogical models were improved to address Law 1098/06, to differentiate assistance ICBF's and increase youths participation.

1. Increased use of extra-institutional “family” settings.

IOM and ICBF increased the percentage of program beneficiaries whose assistance is directed via “family” settings. Program assistance moved from approximately 30% in “home” settings to 47%.

Foster Homes *Hogar Gestor* and *Hogar Tutor* Modalities

Foster homes such as the *Hogares Tutores* in Bogotá assisted 46.4% of the new beneficiaries; 57% of the available allocations were used. The *Hogares Gestores* in Bogotá complement ICBF home-based initiatives in five other regions and assisted 25 youths.

The Program standardized the assistance model *Hogar Tutor* in Bogota. A technical training took place with the participation of civil servants to disseminate all the required technical guidelines. As a result beneficiaries were enabled to have a more qualified and timely access to services.

Regarding regional *Hogar Tutor* in Meta, Program staff provided special support to overcome the difficulties presented last quarter. Monitoring activities allowed the implementation of work plans and the participation of beneficiaries and their families.

With the regional foster homes in Caldas, the main challenge was the establishment of Indigenous foster homes in the *Hogar Tutor* modality. A planning meeting was held with the participation of Indigenous leaders from five different communities in *Riosucio* (*San Lorenzo, Cauromá, La doctrine, Cane and Escopetera Momo*). Pedagogical models were modified to differentiate assistance for Indigenous populations.

Hogar Gestor

The Program expanded this modality assistance. A total of 191 allowances were available nationwide, of which 100 were used. 100% of the *Hogar Gestor* (foster homes) received financial support in areas such as transport, recreation and leisure through the complementary funds provided by USAID.

IOM participated in the implementation of the training and updating strategy to strengthen Support Units of this foster home modality. Three new support units will be funded in Huila, Tolima and Santander, thanks to USAID support. The Program improved quality standards assistance; still challenges specially in rural areas where families are disperse and have difficult access to certain services, which increased operating costs.

Specialized Assistance Centers (CAE)

The Program provided comprehensive assistance to an average of 194 children and youths in seven Specialized Assistance Centers (CAE). Four sub-programs (income generation; education; and health, culture and recreation) were initiated in the CAE, which also provide specific psycho-social assistance to each child, helping him or her overcome the trauma of being recruited. Youth participation and social organization were promoted through this modality.

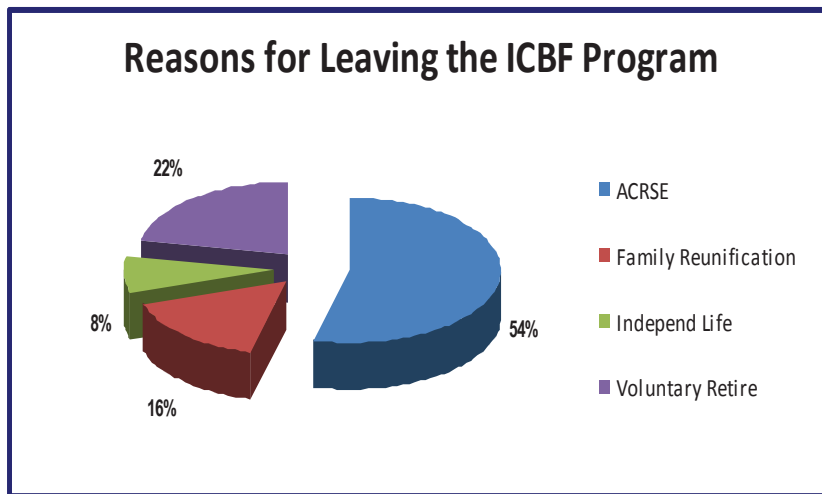
Transit Homes

Three transit homes provided comprehensive assistance, focusing on recreational and educational activities in Valle del Cauca, Santander and Antioquia. The Program hired a total of 90 allowances of which 74 were used. Program staff promoted educational assessments and psycho-social training workshops.

Casa Juvenil (Youth Home)

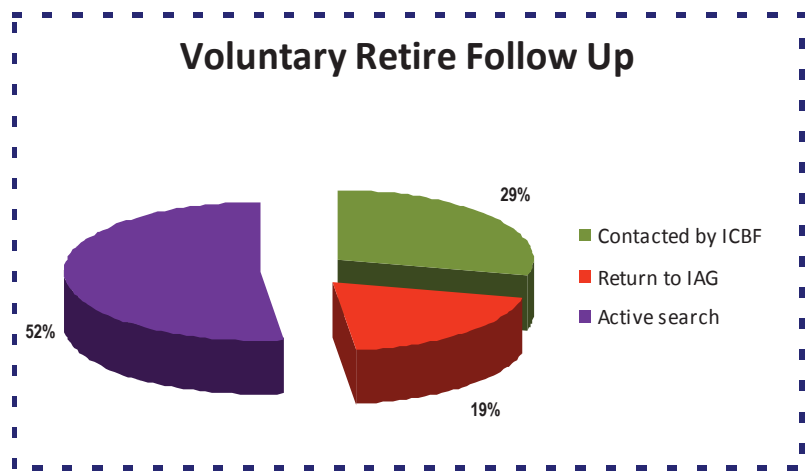
A Youth House is located in Valle del Cauca providing assistance to eleven youths. This assistance modality focused on strengthening the autonomy and co-responsibility of youths and increasing their participation.

Exit Support Options



IOM strengthened social and economic reintegration processes. The Program was able to monitor and support the social reintegration process of each beneficiary. IOM promoted that children who reunite with their families or left the program voluntarily also continue to access Program benefits in order to allow follow up activities.

A total of 95 youths left the Program. Fifteen youths left the Program to reunite with their families; eight youths started an independent life; 21 retired voluntarily; 51 were remitted to the ACRSE.



1.1. FAMILY REUNIFICATION SERVICES

Program family assistance methodologies were improved and served to the reintegration of 77 children and youths (59 male and 18 female). A total of five family encounters took place in Bogotá, Risaralda, Santander, Valle del Cauca, Meta, with the participation of 77 CH&Y and 143 relatives. Due to the CH&Y conditions, the Program organized small groups (maximum 11 persons) to increase personalized assistance.

Family gatherings constituted a key strategy in the analysis of the importance of family ties for the youths' reintegration. ICBF staff provided psychosocial support, treatment and identifies family responsibilities.

Family gatherings were standardized to implement three stages:

Preparation:

ICBF and IOM define selection criteria for choosing beneficiaries. Program staff establish the individual objectives to achieve with the participants, family and / or networks and organize technical and logistical requirements.

Implementation:

The family meetings take place with the support of Program experts. This scenario allows the family and/or network to become more responsible for social support to CH&Y.

Evaluation and monitoring:

Program staff organized follow up and evaluation activities with the participation of CH&Y. The main results are mapping in the ICBF information system to reinforce feedback and monitoring actions. During the reporting period 428 youths have permanent contact with their families. A total of 24 youths were orphans and 93 families were IDP.

Capacity building Virtual Training

Program staff organized virtual trainings on ICBF family assistance guidelines in eleven regional offices (Bogotá, Valle del Cauca, Risaralda, Caldas, Quindío, Bolívar, Santander, Casanare, Meta and Arauca). ICBF distributed family assistance guidelines N° 1, 2 and 3; IOM provided technical assistance to eight regional offices workout these documents with the participation of 160 civil servants and implementing agencies.

1.2. HEALTH

The Program ensured timely and effective access to subsidiary health system of 251 beneficiaries and 299 new beneficiaries entered the system. The program is searching for information on health access to 12 CH&Y. Program staff developed a baseline health diagnosis and evaluation for 67 children upon entering the program. Seven youths had cognitive disabilities; four youths had mental disorders, and 13 youths had physical disabilities.

An average of 367 medical services was provided; 173 youths received general medical assistance; 71 youths received dental care and 34 received specialized medical services. The Program provided HIV/AIDS awareness or sexual health and education services to 25 beneficiaries and. A total of 12 adolescents are pregnant and 16 are nursing mothers.

1.2.1 Preventing Psychoactive Substances Use (PSU)

Program strategies helped to reduce the PSU. Prevention, ambulatory assistance and assistance guidelines were useful in preventing psychoactive substances. Use Program staff identified that 36 beneficiaries used psychoactive substances, of which eight youths had drug abuse problems.

1.2.2 Specialized Assistance to Prevent Sexual Abuse

Due to the close relationship between recruitment and sexual abuse, the Program increase technical assistance to hold a prevention of sexual violence training. A total of 87 public servants and consultants from 24 Centers to Provide Comprehensive Assistance to Victims of Sexual Abuse (CAIVAS) participated. IOM presented a concept paper identifying sexual abuse as one of the main reasons of children recruitment and sexual abuse prevention as a strategy to prevent recruitment.

The Program designed an assistance strategy and training sessions to address sexual abuse issues; based on consultants final report on children abused in Bogota. Address this issue promoted the demystification of the subject as a difficult approach and the ratification of some children and youths sexually abused, before and during the IAG recruitment.

According to the ICBF information system more than 6% of the beneficiaries reported some kind of sexual abuse.

2. Consolidation of pedagogical models and “tool kits”.

2.1. EDUCATION

The program started the implementation of an inter-institutional coordination work plan with ICBF and Ministry of Education to provide children and youth with educational alternatives under the formal system. Program staff held evaluation and monitoring activities for individual educative processes and for strategies implemented by educative institutions.

A total of 67 children accessed the formal education system. An average of 466 children and youth received educative services; 389 accessed the formal education system and 26% participated of leveling education programs. Pedagogical methodologies such as CAFAM, *circulo de aprendizaje*, and *ciclos*, continued to serve as the primary tool for transition toward formal system. The Program provided supplementary assistance for transportation, uniforms and other incidental expenses when these are a barrier attending school.

School coverage reached about 70% of the beneficiaries; 231 children had access to basic studies and 218 to high school. The Program implemented success education models such as *Aula del Sol*, *La Escuela Busca al Niño* and ethno-education models for Afro Colombian and Indigenous populations.

The education component was closely coordinated with the Program income generation component to guarantee education leveling with beneficiary's needs to enter technical training for employment. An average of 75% of the beneficiaries finished the initial vocational training; 25% began training process in some regional offices.

2.2. CULTURE AND RECREATION

The Program improved information mapping of these activities. Program staff coordinated sports, cultural and recreational activities for 318 beneficiaries. Culture and recreation initiatives were used to increase children and youths participation improve psychological care and allowed full development of the children's leadership skills.

Program staff in regional offices coordinated the following activities:

- Bolívar: Musical projects and sports activities
- Risaralda: Theatre and football games
- Bogotá: Library visits
- Antioquia: Visits to ecological parks, sports
- Santander: Recreational activities, stand-up comedy, cinema and library visits
- Valle del Cauca: Dancing practices, farms visits and sports.

1.b LONG-TERM SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL REINTEGRATION

3. REFERENCE AND OPPORTUNITY CENTERS (CROJ) AND TRANSFER OF CROJ RESPONSIBILITIES

CROJ expanded support for economic and social incorporation, with seven regional offices nationwide. IOM provided direct assistance in Chocó, Putumayo y Nariño. CROJ directly impact economic incorporation and provide an important safety net for social incorporation.

The CROJ model was improved developing four different areas of a comprehensive social and economic integration strategy: 1) Training schools; 2) Learning skills to improve living conditions; 3) Improving cultural and artistic skills; and 4) Business project. CROJ also provided support to reparation activities for 529 youths.

- The CROJ provided services to 902 youths. A total of 127 beneficiaries accessed health services; 174 youths were referred to formal education programs, of which 28 received school materials and transport subsidies.
- Recreational and cultural activities took place with the participation of 267 youths. CROJ team organized visits to museums, camping, youth's encounters and vocational training workshops.
- The CROJ provided training to 178 youths on labor skills. CROJ staff referred youths to different companies for employment opportunities and 31 get a job.

A total of 158 families became part of the CROJ regional support networks. CROJ staff assisted 71 youths to obtain legal documentation and 31 new institutions became part of CROJ's national network.

3.1. Transference of the CROJ model to the GOC

As a result of the inter-institutional articulation process between ICBF, ACRSE and IOM, the Program developed the following activities:

- 1) Evaluation and validation of the CROJ assistance model. The evaluation report was submitted; it included: a) The institutional and situational assessment; b) Methodological framework, and c) Results and recommendations. The evaluation team recommended strengthening the specialized assistance model to ex-combatant children for their social and economic reintegration. IOM and ICBF provided feedback on the document and look forward to take appropriate actions.
- 2) Standardization of activities and processes required to guaranty youth access to public services. Program staff reviewed all the administrative and technical processes and protocols.

3) Capacity building activities to implement the CONPES⁴ document N°3554 (National Policy for the Social and Economic Reintegration). The inter-institutional team met to define technical guidelines to assist youths between 18 and 25 years old in their reintegration process.

3.2. Employment Preparation

The Program strengthened inter-institutional articulation between SENA, ICBF, CROJ and IOM to ensure continuity in case of training across geographic zones. A total of 31 local worktables took place in Bogotá, Antioquia, Bolivar, Meta, Quindio, Risaralda, Nariño, Tolima, Santander and Valle.

- The program provided employment preparation training for 572 youths. SENA prioritized ex-combatant children as primary beneficiaries of its programs and activities; access to public technical training was achieved through program activities.
- Some 58 youths participated in an initial course to identify vocational interests through a diagnosis that matches their skills and aptitudes with demand for labor in their areas of interest. Another 303 youths participated in complementary education courses, such as computer skills, coking, bakery, environmental impact and craftworks. A total of 33 youths participated in employment formal trainings such as finances, sales, IT and nursing.
- The CROJ referred 178 youths to other institutions such as COMFENALCO, COMFAMA or CAJASAN to received formal training on gastronomy, building, sells, metalworking, beauty and food handling.
- The Program provided supplementary assistance to 22 youths for school materials and transportation.
- A total of 21 internships were held.

3.3. Income Generation Activities

Program staff placed 31 youths in a job mainly in the building sector. One income generation project was funded by the ACRSE. The CROJ presented 18 income generation projects to be funded by the *Welcome Home Fund*⁵ (*Fondo Bienvenido a Casa*); a joint project led by IOM and the *Tejido Humano* Foundation. A total of 17 projects will received technical and financial support in areas such as communications and food industry.

4. Colombia's new legal framework

4.1. Reparation and restitution of Rights Programs

The program provided technical assistance for the protection of 421 victimized children through *Accion social*. An agreement was drafted between ICBF- *Acción Social* and a fiduciary company to facilitate victims' access to these resources.

The program held training workshops to explain the process for the administrative reparation of 256 children, youths and other victims of violence. A total of 466 received information on the reparation processes.

⁴ A policy guideline document that the GOC is oblige to follow.

⁵ The new Welcome Home centre, managed by IOM, opened its doors in the capital Bogota to provide returning migrants immediate assistance upon arrival, legal and psychosocial counseling and help to continue their education, find employment or explore opportunities to set up micro enterprises and to access medical care.

Program staff started the identification and guidance of legal benefits for 181 youth victims of recruitment by IAG. A total of 534 youths received CNRSE support.

***Reparation and reconciliation Program in Trujillo (Departament of Valle)
(massacre of 1990)***

IOM/ICBF started the implementation of a reparation project to identify the administrative, economic and legal benefits for victims of 1990 massacre in Trujillo (Valle). The project articulated different institutions to improve living conditions of violence and recruitment victims, focusing on the reconstruction of social networks and community values.

4.2. Scholarships to Canada for Youth Participating in Reparation Processes

Scholarships abroad were a success social and economic reinsertion and reconciliation methodology. IOM transferred this project and methodology to the ICBF, which will fund and replicate this project in Colombia.

- The program supported the selection process of five youths from Bolivar, Valle, Antioquia, Bogotá and Caldas.
- Staff program drafted a protocol and guidelines documents to complete the requirements of the Canadian Embassy.
- Travel arrangements were prepared.

LEGAL FRAMEWORK

Program activities allowed children and youths' access to legal documentation rights. It was a basic services that permit children and youths' access to other rights and services. The program increased coverage and assistance to an average of 562 youths to obtain legal documentation. Currently, just five of the beneficiaries do not have documents.

Total Youths	Administrative Situation		Youths without Identification Documents
	Youths with open Cases	Youths with CODA Certificates	
562	191	366	5

MONITORING AND EVALUATION SYSTEM

<i>Reintegration Conditions Index (ICR)</i>	<i>SAME</i>
The Program scheduled and defined the methodology to transfer ICR tool to ICBF regional offices in Valle del Cauca, Cauca, Antioquia, Bolivar, Risaralda, Santander, Caldas and Casanare. A total of 60 civil servants participated of this process. CROJ work team coordinated capacity	IOM finished the verification of information and updating process. Program staff identify that 92% of the CROJ beneficiaries are register in the SAME. The program designed new registering tools and provided specialized intensive training to implement SAME in different ICBF regional

<p>building and transfer trainings, in order to strengthen inter-institutional coordination and increase institutional networks efficiency.</p> <p>The CROJ increased the number of ICR test applied and provided required technical assistance. A total of 76 youths took ICR for initial evaluation; 148 youths took it during their Program process and 58 youths took ICR for evaluation process.</p>	<p>offices.</p>
<i>SIMONI</i>	
<p>Transfer process is under implementation. ICBF decentralized their Mission Information System (SIM) and IT policy. ICBF engineers are designing the IT tools required for the system implementation. Program staff scheduled a training plan for all the civil servants working in any assistance modality.</p> <p>The Program improved information management process to provide updated statistical information on the reparation processes and the active search for beneficiaries who have left the Program.</p>	

Beneficiaries Life Story:

Ex-combatant Children Get a Fresh Start. “I have the clue to prevent recruitment by IAG: Give to the children and youths love and life opportunities”

A nursing school student benefits from the USAID/IOM Consolidation Program to Support Child Ex-Combatants and Prevent Recruitment of Children by IAG activities. “Carlos” who was 13 years old when he was recruited by IAG, now tell us how his life changed after entering the Program. “Carlos” convinced other children to joint IAG; he used to modify the news disseminated by Colombia media to indoctrinate other youths. And he was in charge of the food provisions for the IAG, when he was send to buy some provisions he decided to escape.

Carlos a 21 year old youth finished his high school studies and received technical training on accountability and nursing. He lives with her sister and her family. He dreams with having his own house and complete his superior studies. “I feel that it is a privilege and an honor to be part of this Program. It allowed me to become part of the society again, to serve and help other children. During these three years in the Program, USAID/IOM gave the opportunity to study and train myself to face the future differently”, he says.

He is one of hundreds of Colombian children who have been recruited by IAG, mostly are forced to go but others decided to go because of their economic or family conditions.

The children are typically poor families who live in cramped quarters. The children or their families are often approached by an IAG member who says that they will pay the parents a monthly income and that the child will have a good life. In reality, children are mistreated while parents rarely get any money.

B. PREVENTION COMPONENT

The Program's second specific objective is to work with local institutions and communities to reduce risk of recruitment by IAG in those geographic areas where children are most vulnerable. Prevention included three main elements: 1) support for the National Committee for Prevention of Recruitment CIPR; 2) application of Law 1098/2006 and other changes to national policy that mobilize official resources to prevent recruitment; 3) Public Education and other Social Investment that support Program objectives. Taken as a whole, Prevention activities worked to re-make national attitudes about child combatants.

1. Support for the National Committee for Prevention of Recruitment (CIPR)

IOM provided technical and financial assistance to the establishment of the team that has technical secretariat functions in the Commission. Currently, five professionals are financed by international cooperation funds. The Program funded most of the implementation of the CIPR work plan to prevent children recruitment in the targeted municipalities.

Program staff supported CIPR activities such as: a) meetings with Governors and mayors to follow up and strengthen recruitment prevention policies; b) training workshops on application of Law 1098/2006, with the participation of civil servants and educative agents; c) social cartography activities; and d) participation in the regional Social Policy Councils (CONPOS).

IOM presented recruitment prevention strategies and agreements with other governmental institution to improve articulation processes. The Program drafted an inter-institutional plan to draft a National Economic and Social Policy Council document (CONPES) on recruitment prevention. IOM submitted a project proposal for the European Commission to fund additional recruitment prevention activities with the CIPR.

National recruitment prevention policy approved

The CIPR developed and strengthened local institutional and social capacity, articulating the national recruitment prevention policy with local development plans and other local laws. Program staff provided technical assistance to implement recruitment prevention policies in 107 municipalities and five localities (Bogotá). Three action plans were agreed in Antioquia, Casanare and Tolima; a total of 44 municipalities have action plans under implementation.

Municipalities with Recruitment Prevention Activities Under Implementation

A total of 61 municipalities nationwide and five localities in Bogotá developed recruitment prevention strategies. As a result, 1,800 beneficiaries participated in these processes and 50 action plans are under implementation.

Regional committees to prevent illegal recruitment functioning

Four regional committees assumed the national recruitment prevention policy; their action plans are under implementation in Antioquia, Chocó, César and Cartagena.

Social Cartography Activities

A total of 19 social cartography projects were implemented, with the participation of 530 children.

The exercise trains youth leaders and community organizers, brings them together with municipal authorities, identifies vulnerabilities and raises awareness around the theme of recruitment of youth by IAG

Children Receiving Training

A total of 5,534 children and youths benefited from recruitment prevention activities; of which 272 are Afro Colombian children and youths.

2. Law 1098/06 and Other Public Policy

IOM organized and participated in the VIII Governors Encounter in Bucaramanga. The Encounter took place in June with the participation of 650 civil servants and it focused on food security rights. The program provided technical assistance and participated in the following work groups: 1) Youth Participation; 2) Communication Tools; and 3) Technical assistance for the protection of children and youth rights.

The Program provided financial and technical support for the participation of 35 children and youths from San Andres Island, Cauca, Magdalena, Cundinamarca, Santander and Nariño. These youths were selected because of their experience in food security issues; and they recommended some of the practices used in their communities.

Staff Program drafted and coordinated the operational plan for the National Worktable for the participation of children, adolescents and youths in the implementation of Law 1098/06. This initiative seeks to intensify youth's participation in different processes settings (family, school, community, public and private decision-making, etc.). It will support the implementation of public policies, and strengthening of local networks.

Departmental and local initiatives were supported. Cesar, Meta, Nariño, Tolima, Bogotá and to some extent the Montes de Maria region received intensive assistance to improve their use of national resources, and to incorporate Prevention in formal planning exercises at the regional level.

Departmental development plans include Prevention activities and methodologies (as well as additional municipal plans)

The Program participated in inter-institutional worktables to prevent children recruitment in Bogotá and Cesar. Bogotá is one of the regions with highest recruitment by IAG rates, especially in the localities of Usaquen, Usme, Bosa, Kennedy, Suba, Puente Aranda and Ciudad Bolívar. The Department of Cesar also faced children and youths recruitment, specially in Valledupar, Pueblo Bello, La Paz, El Copey, Codazzi, Tamalameque, Pailitas, Aguachica, San Alberto and San Martín. As a consequence, institutional articulation processes and capacity building activities were necessary to accomplish programs goals in these regions.

Support for Key Institutions (Office of the Inspector General, Prosecutor General's Office, etc)

- The Program supported the *Office of the Inspector General*, providing technical assistance on childhood issues to regional offices. These activities helped to improve the implementation of the development plans; as well as the organization of training workshops and the design of information systems to monitor and evaluate recruitment prevention activities.

- IOM and the *Public Defender's Office* identified common work areas to protect children and youths rights and prevent their recruitment. A new booklet to inform of the legal roadmap to assist children and youths released from IAG, was published.
- Program staff participated and supported the *Alianza por la Niñez* activities. Technical assistance included Law 1098/06 trainings and management in the local level, with the participation of academic and civil society sectors.
- The Program provided technical assistance to the COLOMBIA JOVEN program to draft a CONPES document and design the Youth National System. Inter institutional agreements were made in order to guarantee the protection of youths rights.
- IOM participated in an international cooperation worktable organized by *Acción Social* to coordinate and articulate efforts for the protection of children and youths rights. The Program provided technical assistance to organize two international events: “The International Seminar on Childhood Released from IAG and Social Reintegration” (ICBF initiative) and “The Encounter for an Exchanged of National and International Experiences on Children and Youths Recruitment Prevention” (CIPR initiative).

3. Public Education: Local-level Activities – MVRO and other.

- The Program as part of an inter-institutional alliance with Governor Office of Tolima, Municipality of *Planadas*, SENA, *Hogares Juveniles Campesinos* Foundation, High Commissioner for Peace Office and the Office of the President implemented a project to offer educational opportunities. This education project offered technical farming initiatives to improve live conditions of 200 youths at risk of recruitment. A total of 104 youths were benefited during the reporting period.
- IOM signed a cooperation agreement with the Governor Office of Meta. The Program provided technical assistance to implement youth public policy and organize Social Policy Councils (CONPOS) in 15 municipalities.
- The third phase of the recruitment prevention project in 15 municipalities of the *Montes de Maria* Region started. The main project components are: a) human development, training and psychosocial assistance to youths affected by violence; b) strengthening of youths abilities to change their social conditions; c) support to local networks of Afro Colombians and Indigenous communities; d) technical assistance to the Farming Technical Institutes (ITAS) and; e) support to youths initiatives. The project will benefit 1,369 youths at risk of recruitment.
- Program staff visited Barrancabermeja (Santander) to design a local recruitment prevention strategy. As a result a new recruitment prevention project was drafted to promote peace actions and prevent violence between youths at risk of recruitment. The project will provided technical assistance to 68 artistic and cultural groups, benefiting 500 youths.
- The Program participated in the inter-agential UN committee in Soacha (Cundinamarca). The team provided technical assistance to protect children and youths rights in different inter-institutional initiatives.

MVRO initiatives

- The manual and video to train instructors on MVRO methodology were published. These materials were useful in supporting local processes to design new projects and strategies for preventing children recruitment.
- IOM and the Governor Office of Nariño developed a strategy to prevent children and youths recruitment by IAG. The project strengthened childhood and youth public policy. A total of ten CONPOS and five Youths Councils (Cuaspud, Potosí, Tangua, Buesaco, Policarpa) were reinforced; two new Youths Councils were created in Tumaco and Samaniego. The Departmental Council for Youth was created; youths initiatives were supported in Tumaco and Samaniego and; inter-institutional initiatives to prevent the recruitment of youths from the Awá community were held.
- A training workshop took place in May, with the participation of educative institutions civil servants. This project will benefit 300 children and adolescents between seven and 14 years of age; 320 adolescents and youths between 15 and 25 years of age; 550 adults between 30 and 50 years of age and; ten public institutions.
- The Program held a training workshop to transfer the MVRO methodology to 32 community leaders, teachers and civil servants. Program staff developed geographical assessments in Tumaco and Samaniego, organized technical requirements and selected beneficiaries.
- Due to extremely vulnerability conditions experienced by the population living in the Catatumbo Region, the Program decided to implement a recruitment prevention project in la Gabarra. The *Diosecis* of Tibú and *Proempresas* supported this initiative strengthening ITAS educative processes and youths organizations. Program staff used the MVRO methodology successfully and will transfer this methodology to the local authorities; a training workshop will be held with the participation of five teachers, three community leaders, three ONG employees, ten youth leaders, and five parents. A total of 754 children and adolescents, 270 youths and 50 families will receive assistance.

3.1. Special Support to Afro-Colombian and Indigenous Communities [Displaced Children and Orphans Fund (DCOF)]

USAID's Displaced Children and Orphans Fund's (DCOF) approved the proposal submitted by IOM, to prevent the recruitment of Afro-Colombian and Indigenous children and youth in the Pacific strip and Tolima. Next quarter activities will take place in the following components: 1) Direct support to 10.000 youths to promote their participation, identity, development and rights protection; 2) Strengthen social networks and family ties and 3) Support key Government of Colombia agencies and public policies that directly support Afro-Colombian and Indigenous communities.

3.2. Special Support to Indigenous Communities

- The Program provided technical assistance on food security to four Indigenous communities (Eperara Siapidara - Nariño; Wipiwi – Casanare; Nukak Makú – Guaviare; Sikuai – Arauca). Program staff implemented strategies to increase productive capacities in each community economy.
- ICBF, IOM and local institutions in Ruiosucio and Supía (Caldas) strengthened recruitment prevention strategies. A new project to prevent Indigenous children recruitment through educative

process, strengthening of youths organizations and public policies implementation, started. Project strategies are based on the MVRO methodology and will benefit 300 Indigenous children and adolescents, 150 youths, 100 families and 13 community leaders from the *Embera Chamí Community*.

- IOM and the *Paz y Bien Foundation* implemented a project to build coexistence agreements between Afro Colombian children and youths. The project aimed at developing a pedagogical strategy to improve life conditions of children and youths between seven and 21 years of age. This restitution of rights strategy used Restorative Justice⁶ and Solidarity Economy⁷ perspectives. Staff Program provided assistance to 183 at risk of recruitment and promoted restorative justice process for 89 youths. Program professionals provided counseling plans to 50 individuals and 23 families; 20 sports workshops took place. Solidarity economy projects provided assistance to 30 youths as part of a program call CAFÉ. A total of 177 Afro Colombian male and 95 Afro Colombian female were benefited from these activities.
- The project “Education, rural youth and development for the north of Nariño” started. Program staff focused on recruitment prevention strategies and strengthening of ITAS in the municipalities of Policarpa, los Andes and Colon. The project aimed at increasing youth’s participation and promotes social networks to prevent recruitment. Capacity building activities took place to strengthen educative institutions and improve education quality. A total of 450 children or youths, 362 IDP and 30 educative institutions will be benefited from project activities.
- IOM jointly with ACNUR and *Pastoral Social* implemented a recruitment prevention project in Arauca. The project “Educative communities for peace and democratic coexistence” is aimed at providing education access and conflict resolution tools to youths at risk of recruitment and teachers. Some 716 youths and 230 teachers will be benefited in Arauca, Tame, Saravena and Arauquita.

IOM, *Ministry of National Education* and *UNICEF* Agreement

Progress was made on the implementation of the national policy to promote citizenships competencies in the population affected by violence. Program staff included recruitment prevention strategies in this policy. Capacity building activities increased inter-institutional articulation through the *Aulas en Paz* and *Pedagogy and Protection for Childhood (PPN Spanish acronym)* projects.

The PPN Project expended its activities to the municipalities of Valledupar, Pueblo Bello y El Copey (Cesar) Ungía, Turbo y Acandí (Chocó y Antioquia - Urabá) Ciénaga, Aracataca y Fundación (Magdalena) Abrego, Convención, Ocaña, El Carmen, La Playa y el Tarra (Norte de Santander - Catatumbo). Program staff reestablished communications and articulation processes with the local educative institutions. A total of 4,200 children and youths, seven educative institutions, and 47 teachers received technical assistance.

In Meta, Nariño, Putumayo and Tolima, the Program expanded its activities to benefit 1,200 children and youths, 500 teachers, 260 parents, 46 civil servants and 46 managers of educative institutions.

⁶ A form of criminal justice that emphasizes reparation to the victim or the affected members of the community by the offender, as by cash payment or community service.

⁷ Economic activity is aimed at expressing practical solidarity with disadvantaged groups of people.

3.3. Regional and National Awareness Campaigns

The Program, the Governor Office of Antioquia GIDES Foundation signed a cooperation agreement to develop awareness and dissemination campaigns to prevent children recruitment in Cauca, Nariño, Valdivia, Tarazá e Ituango.

IOM provided technical assistance to ICBF for the implementation of a comprehensive awareness raising campaign directed at public authorities, youth at risk and illegal armed actors to commemorate ten-year program existence. The campaign's emphasis was on social reintegration processes and the importance of families and communities role. IOM supported the following activities:

- Organization of the International Seminar to Prevent Children and Youths Recruitment by IAG.
- Drafting of an over-arching evaluation to identify and systematize best practices
- Publication of a book compiling beneficiaries life stories
- Production and realization of a concert to aware about children and youths recruitment consequences
- Coordination of a media agenda to disseminate reintegration Colombian experience

4. Other Social Investment

The “Jòvenes Conviven por Bogotá” Project - The Mayor Office of Bogotá (MOB)–

IOM supported the third phase of this initiative. The new project will benefit 100 youth's organizations in zones of high risk of recruitment.

Beneficiaries' Life Story: The Program has changed my life!

Paula is 18 years old young girl; she left her home and went to Cartagena at the age of 14. She was looking for better life conditions, however, soon found herself facing economic difficulties. She had drug problems and could not find an opportunity to study.

*She was contacted by IAG that offered her protection and a financial income, but she resisted the offer although her situation was critical. She contacted the ICBF and started to benefit from the recruitment prevention activities of the **Consolidation Program to Support Child Ex-Combatants and Prevent Recruitment of Children by IAG.***

“Since then, I have a home, which is the most important thing for me, food, health services and the opportunity to study!” She says. Currently, she starts her high school and she is learning carpentry in the Escuela Taller Cartagena de Indias school. (ETCAR).

With the Program support, ETCAR provides assistance to adolescents and youths in vulnerable conditions. The school gives priority to population at risk of recruitment, for the social conditions, children who are abandoned or in a violent environment.

Paula started taking cooking lessons but then decided to learn carpentry. “I am very happy, I have learned a lot of things and I realized that I am capable of more than I ever thought. My next goal is to finish the carpentry training and high school” She says with a smile.

As a personal challenge and for her family wellbeing, she started a process to quit drugs use; she stopped using drugs two years ago. Paula recovered her dreams and set her personal goals. She wants to go back to Medellin, live with her family and study architecture. She would like to work someday for an organization that helps children who face her situation.

*Paula is one of the beneficiaries of the **Consolidation Program to Support Child Ex-Combatants and Prevent Recruitment of Children by IAG**, supported by USAID and IOM. She wants to share this message: “Education is the best alternative to reduce the risk of recruitment; this is why I thank the Program and all it has given me, because today I am one girl less in the IAG. I have better life conditions; I have a Project and a lot of expectation towards the future”*

Monitoring and Evaluation: Baseline studies specific to recruitment show significant differences after Program intervention

Econometria submitted the final report of a baseline study to updated information about children and youths recruitment by IAG⁸. The study focused on integrating, into an analytical model different sources of information, the number of children and youths recruited by IAG, (through estimation of trends) and the analysis of the logistics of recruitment from the perspective of recruiters.

The study was based on an econometric analysis⁹ of different secondary sources of information that allowed causal relationships at the municipal level between socioeconomic variables, the activity of IAG and crime with the recruitment of children and youths.

The final report submitted by *Econometria* included:

1. Methodological framework
2. Socioeconomic context
3. Results of econometric analysis
4. Qualitative analysis of primary and secondary sources: Dynamics of children and youths recruitment, the roles of the CH&Y in the IAG and the patterns of recruitment.
5. Conclusions and recommendations to prevent recruitment of children by IAG.

The most relevant results were:

- 1) In the 107 municipalities prioritized by ICBF, some 81,360 children and youths are at high risk of being recruited by IAG; 40% of these children are between seven and eleven years of age and 60% are between 12 to 17.
- 2) The main factors that increase children and youths recruitment are: drug trafficking as a source of funding for activities; culture of illegality in justifying the transgression of rules, the weakness of family ties and the increment of domestic violence as a cause for joining IAG.
- 3) Military actions against IAG and strategies to reduce the vulnerability of the population at high risk of recruitment (by their condition of poverty or, displacement) reduced the recruitment of children and youths.

⁸ Report attached

⁹ Econometrics is concerned with the tasks of developing and applying quantitative or statistical methods to the study and elucidation of an specific situation.

- 4) Due to the possible economic crisis, is expected the increment of poverty levels in Colombia; which makes CH&Y and their families even more vulnerable to recruitment, mainly in remote areas and marginal urban centers.
- 5) The victims of Colombian violence only will restore confidence in the institutions if they receive effective relief from their abusers or the State. The results of the reparations process could be decisive to combat the main causes of children and youths recruitment.

INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING FOR COLOMBIANIZATION

IOM strengthened a total of 25 Colombian institutions, as follows:

At the national level:

- National Ministry of Education
- National Committee for Prevention of Recruitment
- *Alianza para la Niñez Colombiana*
- ICBF
- 13 Implementing agencies

Four Governors Offices in:

- Nariño
- Meta
- Cesar
- Tolima

And the City Hall Office in Bogotá
Center of Development Studies

Exit Strategy Planning

IOM conducted an assessment of institutional needs for efficient and effective decentralization of Program strategies and interventions. Based on this assessment, IOM transferred some best assistance practices and methodologies at appropriate levels. MIMA tool was transferred to CESDE and IICR was transferred to 13 implementing agencies. Children and youths recruitment prevention strategies were shared with Governor Offices and other institutions working on prevention issues.

As part of the *Colombianization* process ICBF and IOM worked together in variety number of areas. Jointly work plans, activities and evaluations took place during the program implementation.

Toolkits, other implementing guidelines delivered to appropriate GOC entities

IOM provided technical assistance and update training on the *Hogar Gestor* modality to the ICBF support units nationwide; three new support units in Tolima, Huila and Santander were created.

The Program transferred the Comprehensive Management Marketing Strategy to the Development Studies Center (CESDE). A total of 15 professionals were trained. IICR methodology was transferred to 13 implementing agencies.

ICBF Assumes Implementation Responsibility

A Ten-year Close-out Impact Evaluation of the ICBF Support Program for Ex-combatant Children

IOM supported ICBF evaluation of the Program, which has been under implementation for ten years. One of the main activities of this process is the organization of an International Seminar to Prevent

Children Recruitment by IAG. The seminar aimed at showing Program results and lessons learned; and establish action points for next years.

The Seminar will take place in October, with the participation of international and national experts on children and youths social and economic reintegration. The main components will be:

- Legislative advances: The Program will show the legal issues finally resolved to protect children rights and support their reintegration.
- The Program as a process to restitute child and adolescents rights: ICBF assistance model and reparations projects, ensuring that victims are compensated.
- Reintegration process and citizenship: to analyze how the assistance model prepare children and youths for their social and economical reintegration. ICBF will show the articulation process with the ACRSE.
- Reparation and Reconciliation: to analyze restitution of rights process to child and adolescent victims of IAG recruitment. Framework to support reparations projects, ensuring that victims are compensated

The over-arching evaluation will identify and systematize best practices, preserve vital lessons-learned from the Colombian experience, and point the way forward to new areas of focus. The Program designed a mapping strategy document, which included: a) Assessment analysis; b) Background operational history, and Program approach; and c) Achievements, beneficiaries, public policy progress and challenges.

ICBF decided that IOM will not support the implementation of the cooperation agreement with the Madrid community, due to time restrictions.

ICBF assumed large proportion of the operational and administrative costs of this Program. ICBF now covers about half the costs of the national staff and 100% of the youth allowances. USAID, UNICEF, *Comunidad de Madrid* are the main Program donors.

IOM transferred Scholarships abroad methodology to the ICBF, which will fund and replicate this project in Colombia, as a success social and economic reinsertion and reconciliation methodology.

Consolidation of Key GOC Partners: “the Four Rs”

The Program provided technical assistance to key GOC Partners such as the Office of the Inspector General, Prosecutor General’s Office and Public Defender’s Office. Capacity building trainings were provided to civil servants and other stakeholders in charge of restitution of rights for youth national reparations programs, reconciliation processes, and prevention of recruitment. Program staff strengthened several inter-agential committees by providing technical assistance to implement Development Plans 2008-2011, and projects specifically related to childhood and youth.

5. LESSONS LEARNED

Main lessons learned can be summarized as follows:

- ***The transfer of the Reintegration Conditions Index (IICR)*** allowed a more in-depth analysis of selected Program beneficiaries. These evaluations were extended to cover a greater number of children. The *Colombianization* process is essential to improve assistance quality.
- ***Family reunification processes are more effective using smaller groups.*** Children and youth required specialized and individual assistance and follow up. The beneficiaries who were reunited with their families, showed fewer social and discipline issues, and stronger social and economic incorporation.
- ***Complementary activities like cultural, recreational, pedagogical and family encounters helped to reduce PSU.*** These activities increased youths' motivation and their participation in their reintegration process.

6. PRIORITIES FOR THE COMING TERM

- Finish IICR transfer to all ICBD regional offices and provide technical assistance for its implementation.
- Adapt the *Hogar Tutor* modality to the conditions of Indigenous communities.
- Strengthen inter-institutional articulation process for the economic and social reintegration of ex-combatants children.
- Start the implementation of recruitment and child labor prevention in regions such as Muzo and San Pablo de Borbur (Boyacá).